



# Montgomery County Council

**For Immediate Release**

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## COUNCIL URGES WASHINGTON AQUEDUCT TO CONSIDER COMMUNITY CONCERNs AT DALECARLIA PLANT

The Montgomery County Council unanimously approved a resolution calling upon the Washington Aqueduct to consider community concerns in choosing options for disposing of solids generated during the water filtration process at the Dalecarlia Water Treatment Plant. While the solids historically have been returned to the Potomac River, the EPA recently precluded that method of disposal. The Washington Aqueduct is currently considering alternative methods, but has not given residents of communities adjacent to the plant essential documents outlining those alternatives.

"I am deeply concerned that neighbors of the Dalecarlia facility have not received documents with critical information about disposal options," said resolution sponsor Councilmember Nancy Floreen. "Federal law requires a full and fair decision-making process. Without the underlying data, residents cannot participate fully in that process. We all care about safe water and environmentally sensitive treatment methods. But our residents deserve an opportunity to make informed comments about alternatives that have a significant impact on their neighborhoods. I urge the Washington Aqueduct to release all essential documents to the community, and give residents 90 additional days to submit comments on alternative disposal methods."

Council President Steve Silverman, a cosponsor of the resolution, said, "Decisions about this facility have enormous impact on residents in Montgomery County. Our community deserves additional time for comment."

"The Dalecarlia Reservoir is partially in Montgomery County," noted Councilmember Howard Denis, a resolution cosponsor. "Many County homeowners who live nearby are rightly concerned that what is a large wooded area may soon become a 'pile of poison.' Their views need to be factored into the decision-making process. This resolution conveys to the Corps of Engineers that this is a serious issue for the community and the County Council."

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